

2012 Seoul Nuclear Security Summit Italy's National Progress Report

Italy is fully committed to the success of the process to reinforce national measures and international cooperation on nuclear security along the lines agreed to in the Washington Communiqué and Work Plan.

Consolidation of the Global Nuclear Security Architecture: Ratification of both the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) and of the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) is at an advanced stage and pending their entry into force many related provisions are already being concretely applied.

Strengthening the International Atomic Energy Agency: Italy is the 6th contributor to the IAEA regular budget and actively supports the Agency through financial contributions to the Nuclear Security Fund and to the Technical Cooperation Program.

Nuclear Material Consolidation and Minimization: The Italian national inventory of special nuclear material is currently consisting of limited quantities of Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) and Plutonium stored in accordance with the CPPNM as amended. Noting the importance of the timely removal and disposition of nuclear materials from facilities no longer using them, Italy is working jointly with the United States to eliminate its excess Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) and Plutonium. Ad hoc arrangements are under way under in the framework of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative, in view of the repatriation of the currently not utilized nuclear material in connection with the next Nuclear Security Summit planned for 2014.

Enhancing National Nuclear Security Capacity: Nuclear security measures, including transport security measures, are implemented in accordance with the CPPNM Amendment and the INFCIRC255/Rev.5, together with the relevant EU Directives and IAEA Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources. International transports of Italian irradiated fuel and nuclear materials are currently carried out in the framework of the national programme for the decommissioning of nuclear installations. With the objective of ensuring the required coordination among all national actors in combating illicit trafficking, Italy is planning to develop a National Nuclear Security Plan which will cover, in an integrated manner, provisions related to nuclear materials, radioactive sources and nuclear installations and harmonize respective contingency plans.

Enhancing efforts in Combating Illicit Trafficking: Italy has signed a cost-sharing MEGAPORT agreement with U.S. Under this agreement the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) is working with Italy's Customs Agency to help secure cargo containers passing through several Italian ports with radiation detection equipment and an associated communications system.

Strengthening Nuclear Security Culture: Since the Italian G8 Presidency in 2009, Italy has been placing special emphasis on education, training and institutional capacity building as elements indispensable to an effective security infrastructure. As announced by the Italian Prime Minister at the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has launched together with the IAEA and the Trieste International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), an

initiative for the establishment of a School on Nuclear Security to enable young professionals in particular from developing countries to acquire the knowledge they need to improve national nuclear security. Participants come from regulatory authorities, universities, research institutes, different national ministries and law enforcement agencies. The first two-week course was held at the ICTP in Trieste in April 2011 and was attended by 45 participants from 43 countries. The next course is planned to take place in May 2012.

Recent developments in the Italian nuclear energy policy: Following the results of a public consultation held in June 2011, the Italian Government has decided to discontinue the development of its programme for nuclear power generation. Italy's commitment to promoting and upholding nuclear safety, security and safeguards remains firm.